

Application/Control Number: 09/814,568

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CLMPTO FOR PRE-AMDT FILED 01/24/02.

Art Unit: ~~2862~~

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1 1. A stream data reproducing apparatus for reading
2 out stream data stored in a recording medium and reproducing
3 the data, comprising:
4 a reading processing portion for reading out the
5 stream data from the recording medium according to branch
6 definition information stored in the recording medium; and
7 a processing portion for reproducing the read out
8 stream data.

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2. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the branch definition information has information indicating a branch position and information indicating a branch destination, and

the reading processing portion is operable to start reading out the stream data from the branch destination when the reading of the stream data is completed up to the branch position.

3. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the branch definition information further has information indicating the number of branches, and

the reading processing portion is operable to read out the stream data according to the number of branches.

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4. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

the branch definition information further has information indicating whether or not to permit branching, and

the reading processing portion is operable to perform a branch in reading out the stream data only if branching is permitted.

5. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the recording medium is a portable recording medium.

6. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the recording medium is a portable recording medium.

7. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

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the recording medium is a portable recording medium.

8. (AMENDED) The stream data reproducing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein
the recording medium is a portable recording medium.

9. (AMENDED) A method of reading out and reproducing stream data stored in a recording medium comprising the steps of:
reading out branch definition information from the recording medium;

reading out the stream data from the recording medium according to the branch definition information; and
reproducing the read out stream data.

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cont*

10. (AMENDED) A recording medium recorded with a stream data reproducing program, the program comprising code for:
reading out branch definition information from the recording medium;

reading out stream data from the recording medium according to the branch definition information; and
reproducing the read out stream data.

11. (AMENDED) A stream data reproducing program stored on a computer readable medium for enabling processing, said processing comprising the steps of:

reading out branch definition information from the computer readable medium;

reading out stream data from the computer readable medium according to the branch definition information; and
reproducing the read out stream data.

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- 1 12. A recording medium recorded with:
 - 2 stream data;
 - 3 branch definition information to control the order of
 - 4 reading the stream data; and
 - 5 a stream data reproducing program to allow the stream
 - 6 data to be read out according to the branch definition
 - 7 information and reproduced.

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